

NCO retraining programs begin

WASHINGTON — The Air Force recently began the voluntary phase of its fiscal 2003 and 2004 noncommissioned officer retaining programs.

The program is designed to help the Air Force balance its enlisted force by moving NCOs in specialties with surpluses to those with shortages, personnel officials said. It consists of two phases — voluntary and involuntary.

“We begin this program with the clear recognition that people are our most valuable resource,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray. “Retraining will allow us to alleviate stress from those airmen in undermanned specialties, while still giving our people options and choices in the process.”

The voluntary phase of the program is scheduled to run through June 6. The involuntary phase, if needed, is scheduled to run June 20 through Aug. 15.

While every effort is made to attract volunteers, some airmen may be selected for involuntary retraining if the number of volunteers falls short, officials said.

“Airmen in eligible career fields should look to their supervisors and leadership to help them make informed choices,” Chief Murray said.

This year, officials seek to move approximately 1,400 mid-level NCOs into shortage specialties. The fiscal 2004 program will target approximately 2,000 to 2,500.

The imbalances in the mid-level NCO grades have occurred because of personnel force structure changes, differing retention trends among specialties and the equality of promotions across all skills, officials said.

The retraining program seeks to carefully balance member expectations with the needs of the Air Force, officials said.

“Ultimately, we need to balance our enlisted force to better meet today’s mission requirements and those in the future,” Chief Murray said. “The retraining program will help us do that.”

“This program allows the Air Force to help fill shortfalls in other career fields,” said Maj. Jim Davis, 14th Mission Support Squadron commander. “It also gives NCOs a chance to broaden their horizons.”

Several new features have been added to the program this year to make implementation smoother.

Wing commanders may recommend assignment curtailments of up to six months, except at remote tour locations or those requiring 100-percent manning.

Airmen “at risk” for involuntary retraining may access their relative standing on the Air Force Personnel Center’s Web site at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlskills/Retraining/retraining.htm>.



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett

New ‘do’

Second Lt. Jason Bianchi, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 04-03, gets a haircut from Charlotte Parker, flightline barber, at the new barber shop in Building 268, Room 107. Its hours are from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and from 1 to 7 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays.

Community survey starts at CAFB

Airman Alexis Lloyd
Public affairs

Air Force survey polls servicemembers and spouses to help improve quality of life on bases.

The information collected from the Community Assessment Survey is used to assist base programs in improving services designed to meet the needs of service members and their families, said Capt. Samantha Blanchard, 14th Medical Operations Squadron.

Air Force service members and their spouses at Air Force bases worldwide are randomly selected to participate in the study. A notification letter that includes a link to the web-based survey is sent out to the work email address of each service member select-

ed to participate. Participation is crucial to the success of the project — selected service members are strongly urged to take part.

“The 2003 Community Assessment Survey is a top priority,” Captain Blanchard said. “It is the best way for us to listen to service members and then provide services to help them meet their needs and the needs of their family. It allows them to express their opinions anonymously so participants can respond openly and honestly to issues that affect them every day.”

Survey responses can directly influence family services and related support activities at local bases and throughout the Air Force. In fact, results from previous Air Force Community Assessments have impacted the policies and programs that sup-

port families at every level of the Air Force, to include:

- Expanding financial counseling programs to members and their families

- Develop a user-friendly support network for Air Force single parents

- Set up marriage support seminars for junior enlisted members and their spouses

“The 2003 Community Assessment Survey provides service members and spouses a wonderful opportunity to improve the Air Force Community,” Captain Blanchard said. “We hope those selected will do everything they can to respond to the survey as quickly as possible.”

For more information, call Capt. Todd Tice, Integrated Delivery System chairperson at Ext. 2239.

Pin honors parents, bolsters support of Air Force

Free gift for airmen’s biggest supporters to wear proudly

Staff Sgt. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A new program will help airmen honor those who are often their biggest supporters — their parents.

All uniformed airmen can now sign their parents up to receive a new lapel pin. The pins are about three-fourths inch square and feature a silver letter “P” cradled within the Air Force symbol.

A personalized letter to the parents from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper will accompany the pins.

“We could not protect America’s freedom without the incredible people who are willing to carry on the Air Force tradition,” the letter reads. “As the proud parents of one of those airmen, your support continues to be critical to our ongoing efforts and makes a real difference to our country.”

“This is a way to build and maintain public support for the global war on ter-

rorism,” said Brig. Gen. Edward Tonini, director of Your Guardians of Freedom, the Pentagon office responsible for the parent pin effort. “Demographically, the people most likely to wear the pin with the greatest amount of pride — to church, to Rotary Club meetings or to the grocery store — are our parents.

“By wearing this pin, parents will let you know of the pride they have in you,” General Tonini said. “When they wear that pin out, their friends will ask about it. Your parents will tell them about you and your service, and how proud they are of you.”

Those who would like their parents to receive a pin can sign up at the Your

Guardians of Freedom Web site at www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com. Signing up will require airmen to enter

the names and addresses of up to two parents or parental figures, Tonini said. The program is voluntary and comes at no cost to those participating.

The distribution of the parent pin and accompanying letters is the second major effort by the relatively new Your Guardians of Freedom office. The

first was the employer pin campaign, started in November 2002, in which pins featuring an “E” and personalized letters are sent to the civilian employers of Air National guardsmen and reservists.

Both pin programs are contemporary



adaptations of public support campaigns carried out during World War II.

The Your Guardians of Freedom program is designed to continue those traditions by ensuring the continued support of Air Force activities by those who do not wear the blue uniform, but stand behind those who do, General Tonini said.

“Your Guardians of Freedom is an outreach program targeted at what we consider the core constituencies that the Air Force requires to do its work,” General Tonini said. “If we are going to keep people in the Air Force ... we need programs targeted at their families ... and their extended families. In the case of the Reserve and Guard, that also includes civilian employers.”

The employer pin program is ongoing, and reservists and guardsmen can still sign their employers up at the Your Guardians of Freedom Web site.

“In the Air Force, we tend to use the term ‘force multiplier,’” General Tonini said. “These programs aren’t force multipliers, but rather, support multipliers all around the country.”

Asian Pacific American Heritage Spotlight

Tech. Sgt. Hudson Varner
14th Operations Support Squadron

What Asian-Pacific American do you feel has had a major influence on American culture? I think the Asian-Pacific American who has had the

most influence on American culture is Hiroshi Yamauchi, the Japanese born billionaire.

Actually, I don’t really know if he is a U.S. citizen but he is the former chairman of Nintendo and the majority owner of the Seattle Mariners Major League baseball team. Yamauchi was instrumental in the development of early video games like Mario Bros., Donkey Kong and recently the Game Boy system. It wasn’t until he bought the Mariners in the early ‘90s they became popular and started winning.

Today children can’t leave home without their Game Boy and the Seattle Mariners’ gear is now fashionable since they are competitive every year.



Courtesy photo

AFSA convention

Chief Master Sgt. Karl Meyers, Air Education and Training Command command chief, talks to Master Sgt. Antonio Alston, 14th Security Forces Squadron and Columbus AFB Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter president, during the AFSA convention at Shreveport, La. People interested in joining AFSA can call Sergeant Alston at Ext. 7120.

NEWS BRIEFS

Spouses appreciation

The commissary celebrates Military Spouses Appreciation Day at 10 a.m. today. The 14th Mission Support Group and family support center staff kick off the day's events. There are gift certificates, drawings for gifts and many specials throughout the commissary. For more information, call Ext. 7109.

Junior enlisted call

A mandatory junior enlisted call for airman basics through technical sergeants is at 3:30 p.m. today at the community center with the 14th Flying Training Wing command chief. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Kevin Mott at Ext. 7008.

Safety briefing

The 14th Flying Training Wing kicks off the 101 Days of Summer campaign with four safety briefings at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. May 22. The speaker is Officer Bill Cane, National Crime Prevention Task Force. The wing's "Safety Day" is scheduled for May 23. For more information, call Ext. 2519.

School uniforms

People who are leaving the Columbus area can drop off their children's serviceable school uniforms at the family support center to help those who come in before the next school term. For more information, call Ext. 2790.

Tumbling Tots experience first meet

2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett
Public affairs

More than 10 children competed in the first Tumbling Tots gymnastic meet in the youth center gym Sunday. The children strutted their stuff during three different events: the balance beam, bar and springboard. Everyone came together so the children could show what they have learned over the past months, said Christy Hayes, program instructor. The children walked across the balancing beam, jumped and grabbed on to the bar and lifted their legs and jumped down. Finally they ran up to the springboards and jumped over a makeshift vault. "I like how Christy allowed the kids to pick whatever event they wanted learn," said Capt. Gayle Peters, 14th Communications Squadron. "My son likes the bar." The gymnastics meet ended the first season for the Tumbling Tots, but the meetings offered more than learning how to cross a beam and hang on to a bar. "My son's self-esteem and confidence has improved," Captain Peters said. The program improved their social skills, but parents also used the group meetings to catch up. "My daughter has really enjoyed coming to the [youth center] and playing with her friends," said Susan Pringle. "I also enjoyed getting together with my friends." The instructor took pleasure in teaching the children and seeing them excel over time. "I have seen an improvement in [the children's] strength, agility and social skills," Ms. Hayes said. Everyone came out a winner by winning a medallion and ribbon for their efforts. "These kids have meant the world to me," Ms. Hayes said. "Everyday they were full of energy — they were always ready to go and learn." The program continues through the summer. A fall schedule will soon be available. For more information, call the youth center at Ext. 2504.



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett
Morgan Pringle, 2 years old, walks across the balance beam while Christy Hayes, Tumbling Tots program instructor, watches.

Effective communication helps build Air Force team

Col. Mike Parsons
14th FTW vice commander



How many times have you been tasked and told the reason for the tasking was "That is what the boss wants"? Have you ever heard, by the rumor mill, of an upcoming tasking/project affecting your unit, and it seemed everyone knew about it, except the person who needed to know — you? Internal to your organization, have you ever wondered if your supervisor really understood (or even cared) about some of the difficulties you have to contend with on the job?

Chances are we have all answered "yes" to these leading questions at some point in our military careers ... maybe even today in your present job. If you are answering "yes," then you are coping with frustrations we need to minimize. Many of these frustrations are a direct result of our inability to get the word out to people in a timely manner to ensure affected individuals are clearly informed (who, what, when, where, why and how) of issues, events, projects and tasking. This boils down to communicating with each other effectively. In this article, I will address some concerns and considerations with communication problems we may deal with on occasion. First, getting the word out to team members in a timely manner and more importantly, in a way they

understand the requirements and goals (the intent), is key in enhancing the communication process. It always helps if the supervisor knows what is trying to be said or done. Have you ever heard someone in a supervisory position comment on an issue, and you found yourself wondering exactly what the expectations were? If you did find yourself in this unsure position, did you try to clarify the concern? Did the environment provide an atmosphere that allowed your input? As I am sure you know, it is very difficult at times to bridge a communication gap. As supervisors, it is your responsibility for setting the tone that allows two-way communication.

See TEAM, Page 5

Special thanks to military spouses

Gen. Don Cook
Air Education and Training Command commander



RANDOLPH AFB, Texas — Throughout the year we celebrate and commemorate, often with great fanfare, people and events that have made our nation great. For the men and women who serve in uniform I think such commemorations take on added meaning and significance because many of these occasions are recognition of sacrifice, patriotism and service in securing and maintaining freedom and peace for our country and its citizens. But one occasion that doesn't get as much fanfare as it should is Military Spouses Day, which we will celebrate today. I think you will all agree we need to change that. Our military spouses are extraordinary people. Their personal sacrifices, contributions, volunteer efforts and service before self are integral to the health and well-being of our families, our success as individuals and play a large role in ensuring our Air Force can successfully achieve its mission. As we all know, the life of a military family is filled with unique challenges and opportunities. Today it is often the rule rather than the exception that both husband and wife work, while sharing the responsibilities of raising a family.

See THANKS, Page 5

DOD provides teens 'on the move' with online help

WASHINGTON — Moving to a new school. Making new friends. Those are just a few of the stressors that plague teenagers and children of military families more often than their civilian peers. John Molino, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy, said children whose parents are in the military move at least five times in a sponsor's military career. Each year, he said, some 250,000 military children move. However, help in dealing with the anxiety of yet another permanent change of station can be found at <http://dod.mil/mtom>. That's the address of an improved Defense Department Web site designed especially for teens and children of military families. The Web site is "Military Teens on the Move." Another site for children ages 6 to 12 called "MTOM for Kids" can be accessed at the same address.

Mr. Molino said the new Web site is designed to help teens and children deal with stresses of their parent's military careers. "This initiative is an effort to communicate better to our teens who are military dependents because they move so often, far more often than the average American youth and they go often to unfamiliar places," he said. "Moving can be very trying, very compelling, and we're trying to make this transition easier." The site designers, Chuck Thomas Creative, an Illinois-based agency, surveyed teenagers. "They found out what teens said they would need and what they would find helpful," Molino said. "Teenagers have a lot of questions, and most think they are the only ones in the world with that question. And what they'll find at the Web site is information that responds to those questions," Mr. Molino said.

"How do I cope with this move? How do I tell my close friend I'm about to move? What can I find out about the new school or neighborhood?" he said. "This site either gives them that information directly or provides links to that information indirectly," he added. The site also provides a bulletin board that military teens can use to post messages to other teens who may be dealing with the same issues and to help them connect with new friends, he said. Mr. Molino said the site would be updated regularly to ensure it stays current and safe for teens. And, he said, links to other Web sites will be monitored to ensure that "we are not sending our teens down a wrong path." The site isn't a cure-all for young people who have trouble coping in the military, but DOD is hopeful it will help military teenagers and children understand their roles as part of the DOD family, he added.

SILVER WINGS

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Key phone numbers

Base Exchange.....434-6013
Chaplain.....434-2500
Civil Engineer Service Desk.....434-2856
Civilian Personnel.....434-2635
Clinic:
Family Practice.....434-2172
Appointment Desk.....434-2273
After Hours Care.....434-2273
Columbus Club.....434-2489
Commissary.....434-7106
Finance.....434-2706
Housing Maintenance.....434-7370
Inspector General.....434-2927
Legal Office.....434-7030
Military Equal Opportunity.....434-2591
Security Forces.....434-7129
Shoppette.....434-6026



STRAIGHT TALK LINE

The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command. The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in the Silver Wings without names. Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724. People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main website at www.columbus.af.mil. Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.

TEAM (Continued from Page 4)

Second, supervisors should know the direction the team needs to be heading, but that doesn't mean they should stop soliciting input from team members. Inputs from team members who deal with "where the rubber meets the road" issues are invaluable in avoiding obstacles down the road. However, an important requirement in orchestrating the two-way communication process is that the supervisor must be willing to listen.

When was the last time you went to your boss to provide inputs on an issue and felt you hadn't been heard - their mind was already made up. If we, as supervisors, aren't willing to keep an open mind and truly listen, the entire communication process breaks down.

Two-way communication is essential in maintaining a "can do" team that not only gets the job done but gets the job done right. Effective communication fosters team members who are willing to go the extra mile because they feel their ideas are contributing to the overall team effort.

Third, as a team, finding opportunities to communicate, solicit ideas, and provide real feedback is sometimes difficult.

Maintaining a schedule that supports approximately 300 plus sorties a day, with shifts, has a direct impact on opportunity. Also, remember not everyone has e-mail and those who do, don't always check their e-mail as frequently as others. Supervisors must make opportunities to get the team together periodically to facilitate communication and keep the momentum moving forward.

Fourth, when there are opportunities to get the team together, a challenge for some teams could be determining what type of forum is needed to really improve communication and understanding. An example might be, you sometimes conduct feedback meetings without key supervisors present.

You may notice that younger members are more apt to talk freely in this informal environment. This initiative isn't the most timely concerning unit issues, but it could be used to clarify some issues directly

affecting team members and providing some of the explanations concerning why and what the team is doing.

This setting could also highlight areas where breakdowns exist in your unit's overall communication process. Supervisors must remember to listen to members' comments and take actions to correct concerns and also to incorporate sound suggestions when appropriate.

I have focused on just a few concerns and considerations with communication problems. Ensuring the "spread the word" process is handled clearly and timely is a key factor in communicating effectively. The bottom line is communication is a continuous challenge, requiring everyone's participation if it is to be effective.

I believe if people are kept informed and provided logical reasons for taskings, they will actively contribute and participate in the unit's goals. However, remember, you (as the supervisor) must listen and take actions as required and when appropriate.

THANKS (Continued from Page 4)

Both spouses may serve in uniform while other couples are comprised of a military member and a civilian spouse maintaining a career either in the home or in the commercial sector.

But no matter the specific situation, I think today the military family, and the military spouse in particular, face the daunting challenges confronting them with a special fortitude, commitment, and esprit de corps unique to our military family vocation.

It is important to remember that in military families, all members serve our

country in one way or another.

During the often-lengthy separations indigenous to military service, the spouses remaining behind have awesome responsibilities to sustain a home and family.

By default, they must frequently take on the duties of both mother and father dealing with the complex issues of daily life ... and they must do it alone. The military spouse is truly the engine that keeps our homes and our lives on track when the military member is deployed or temporarily away.

In my personal experience I could not have succeeded in supporting the many military missions I was called upon to do without the loving partnership I have with my wife, Diane.

I am very proud of her service to our family, the Air Force and our nation. I applaud her for her sacrifice and commitment and the fact that she has packed us up to PCS 24 times! She is among the thousands of military spouses who make this Air Force the great organization it is and I thank her and all our military spouses for that special

commitment everyday.

Across Air Education and Training Command we will hold a variety of events and activities today geared to recognize the many contributions our military spouses make to the military community and the enormous impact they have on the quality of our lives.

I encourage you to participate fully in celebrating their accomplishments and to thank them for all they do for us.

Our spouses are special and help make our Air Force family strong. We must celebrate them.

AIR SHOW & OPEN HOUSE

Wings over Columbus honors 100 years of powered flight from the Wright Brothers to modern aircraft.

COLUMBUS AFB, MS
Featuring the USAF Thunderbirds

Free Admission!

Navy jets and Army helicopters will also be at the base.

JUNE 1, 2003
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bring your lawn chairs and wagons

No weapons, coolers, rollerblades, bicycles, skateboards or pets

For more information, call Ext. 7202 or visit
www.wingsovercolumbus.com



AT THE CHAPEL

Chapel schedule

Catholic

Sunday activities:

9:15 a.m. — Mass

10:30 a.m. — CCD

5 p.m. — Confessions

5:30 p.m. — Mass

Wednesday

11:30 a.m. — Mass

Protestant

Sunday activities:

9 a.m. — Sunday school

10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship

1 p.m. — Contemporary worship

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m. — Video Bible study supper

7:15 p.m. — Choir rehearsal

Thursdays

11:30 a.m. — Lunch Bible study

For Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

AT THE MOVIES

The theater is closed for renovations until further notice. For more information, call the shoppette at 434-6026.

COMMISSARY

The commissary hours are:
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. — Thursdays
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Saturdays
Closed — Mondays

CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories.

Call 2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett for more information at Ext. 7065.

Weekdays
9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.
Air Force Television News
Monday through May 16
9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
College Level Examination
Program Tapes:
Mathematics

FAMILY
SUPPORT



(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information, call Ext. 2790.)

Single parents: The Columbus AFB Single Parents Group luncheon is at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday in the Columbus Club ballroom. The guest speaker is the base exchange manager, Steve Pena.

TAP workshop: A transition assistance workshop is from May 13 to May 15 at the family support center. The workshop includes seminars on health benefits, starting a business, veterans affairs, state employment agencies and relocation.

Heart Link: The next spouse orientation program, Heart Link, event is from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. May 19 at the family support center. The program is an interactive, information-packed morning for all military spouses new to Columbus AFB or to the Air Force. Reservations must be made by May 15.

Sponsor training: The next sponsor training class is at 9 p.m. May 27 at the family support center.

Sponsor training is also available on the public folders, through email. For more information on how to access it, call the family support center.

Self-paced learning: The family support center offers self-pace computer study programs in Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Outlook, Publisher, FrontPage and PhotoDraw in three levels of expertise. To improve your computer skills, call Mark Horning.

Children and war: The family support center offers their services to help parents explain war and deployments to their children.

Stop by the FSC to pick up complete packages to help make children less confused.

Baby bunch delay: The baby bunch group meetings have been delayed until September. For more information, call the family support center.



Airman Alexis Lloyd

Drawing pays off

Col. Mike Parsons, 14th Flying Training Wing vice commander, hands Cali Hankey, 12 years old, a gift card for Books A Million for winning the 14th FTW legal office's drawing contest for Law Day.

Calling cards: Free \$20-valued phone cards are offered to all people going on contingency TDYs for 30 days or longer. This is sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society. Phone cards must be issued to military personnel. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Jamey Coleman.

Videophones: Videophones are available for family members of deployed, TDY or remote military people.

BASE
NOTES



For more information, call 2562.

EMCC courses: The East Mississippi Community College summer course schedules are available for pick up at the education center or can be downloaded at www.emcc.cc.ms.us.

Vacation bible school: Registration for vacation bible school is open until June 2. This year's theme is SCUBA — Super Cool Undersea Bible Adventure. The VBS lasts from 9 a.m. to noon June 2 through June 6.

Volunteers are needed for this program. For more information or to volunteer, call Joy Garrison at Ext. 2500.

Car care: The auto hobby shop offers basic car care classes.

The classes teach oil changes, tire rotations and many other do-it-yourself skills. For more information or to sign up for a class, call Ext. 7842.

Civilian tuition assistance: Appropriated fund civilian employees thinking about taking summer classes at nearby colleges or online may be eligible to have course costs covered under the Air Force's civilian tuition assistance program.

For more information, call Curtis Donald at Ext. 2562.

Columbus AFB volunteers tackle two-story stage at Market Street Festival



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett
Airman 1st Class Lawrence Pitts, 14th Mission Support Group, takes apart a Genie machine during the stage tear down.



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett
Lt. Col. Gary Lorimor, 37th Flying Training Squadron, and Airman 1st Class Christopher Myers, 37th FTS, unscrew the tent roof during tear down.

2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore Public affairs

More than 40 Columbus AFB volunteers wielding clamps, wrenches, and hundreds of bungee cords assembled and dismantled the main performance stage for last weekend's Market Street Festival in downtown Columbus.

The daunting weekend evening projects required a combined 11 hours of intense physical labor stretching well into the early morning hours.

The project involved heavy lifting, teamwork, and sweat, said 2nd Lt. John Bennett, 14th Operations Support Squadron airfield operations systems officer.

"The Columbus AFB volunteers who constructed, disassembled, and repacked the Market Street Festival stage would have made the head roadie for the Rolling Stones tour proud," Lieutenant Bennett said.

Work began at 6 p.m. May 2 when an 18-wheeler carrying the stage materials and tools pulled up to Columbus Light and Water downtown.

Volunteers worked until 12:30 a.m. unloading the truck, leveling the ground, connecting scaffolding and floor panels, and securing the enormous canvas stage frame cover.

Work resumed Saturday at 11 p.m. after performances by 30 Fingers, Class of '65 and Foghat. The tear-down process began with the dismantling and reloading of 50 stage lights, 30 giant speakers and a host of professional sound equipment.

At 3:30 a.m. when the tractor-trailer was fully reloaded and ready to depart for its voyage back to Tennessee, there was a sense of accomplishment among the weary volunteers.

"When I first saw the picture of what we were supposed to construct, I seriously doubted we'd be able to complete such a big job," said dual-night volunteer Airman 1st Class

Jacqueline Andrews, 14th OSS. "But once I realized how well everyone worked together, I knew we'd get it done. It felt great to see the final product."

First Lt. Ryan Landmann, 41st Flying Training Squadron, said, "I figured having a few people who worked both nights would help breakdown go faster. The people from the community who thanked us for the support was enough to bring a couple of us back for more hard work."

Market Street Festival planners applauded the work of the dedicated volunteers.

"We really appreciate the incredible efforts of our base volunteers," said Jan Miller, Main Street manager. "We really couldn't have done it without them."

(Editor's note: In a separate effort, 17 base volunteers worked throughout the festival to distribute 2,000 flyers promoting Columbus AFB's June 1 Air Show featuring the Air Force Thunderbirds.)



Airman Alexis Lloyd
Airman 1st Class Shawn Arnett, 14th Communications Squadron, and Airman LeShandra Cokeley, 14th CS, prepare the screw jacks for the stage set up at the Market Street Festival.



Airman Andrea Shircliff, 14th Communications Squadron, carries scaffolding crossbars.

Services offers recreation outlets for base people

Barbecue: The Mongolian barbecue scheduled for today has been cancelled. Call Ext. 2337.

American Cafe open: The Columbus Club’s American Cafe opens from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fridays and is open to all ranks. Club members receive a \$2 discount. Call Ext. 2489.

All ranks bingo: Games begin at 6 p.m. Fridays in the community center ballroom. People play five \$75 regular games, one \$125 odd and even coverall game and a \$1,000 progressive jackpot game. Consolation prize is \$150 if the jackpot does not go in 52 numbers or less. Admission fees for nonmembers are \$5. Payout is based on a minimum number of players. Call Ext. 2489.

Youth center bingo: Games begin at 7 p.m. today for ages 9 and older at the youth center. Members play free and nonmembers play for \$2 each. Five games plus a special bonus game are played. Call Ext. 2504.

Variety night: The enlisted lounge features variety music with disc jockey Kool Kleve from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. today. Call Ext. 2489.

Enlisted lounge open Saturdays: The enlisted lounge is now open Saturdays from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Entertainment tonight features Disc Jockey Kool Kleve with a variety of music. Call Ext. 2489.

Mother’s Day brunch: The Columbus Club offers an all-ranks brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Cost is \$10.95 and club members receive a \$2 discount. Free photos, carnations for Mom and a chance to win a free brunch or half off the club’s next brunch scheduled for May 26 are available. Call Ext. 2489.

Crafts classes: The skills development center offers classes for both youth and adult. Morning, afternoon and evening classes in May for adults include making garden angel Tuesday, an Uncle Sam door hanging May 20 and a ribbon woven pillow May 27. Youth classes include making a wooden airplane barrette holder Wednesday, a mosaic garden stone May 21 and a placemat May 28. Youth classes are offered at 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Register at least four days prior to class date. Call Ext. 7836.

Youth health and wellness seminar: The youth center offers a free youth health and wellness seminar at 4 p.m. Thursday. The program offers information on good eating habits, proper exercise and proper care for the body. Register by Tuesday if you plan to attend. A special guest from the health and wellness center

will be available to answer questions. Call Ext. 2504.

Karaoke night: The enlisted lounge features karaoke May 16. Call Ext. 2489.

Casino trip: The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to the Silver Star Casino in Philadelphia, Miss., May 16. Cost is \$15 per person and includes transportation and \$15 in coin. The bus leaves at 5:30 p.m. and returns around 2 a.m. Call Ext. 7858.

Youth money management seminar: The youth center offers a free youth money management seminar at 4 p.m. May 22. The seminar offers information on how youth can manage money they make during the summer months. Register by May 20 to attend. A special guest from the family support center is available to answer questions. Call Ext. 2504.

Trip to Water Park: Members of the youth center’s Keystone Club are going to the Geyser Falls Water Theme Park in Philadelphia, Miss., May 24. Register by May 20 at the youth center. Must have at least eight registered to offer. Participants must pay for admission at the park. Call Ext. 2504.

Youth center members appreciation night: Youth center members are invited to this free program from 6 to 8 p.m. May 23. Members must present their membership ID card to enter. They eat free and games and activities are planned for all ages. Call Ext. 2504.

Out-of-school dance: The youth center hosts this dance from 8 to 11 p.m. May 24. The night’s activities also include a dance contest. Cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers. Preteens pay \$1 and nonmembers pay \$2 and must depart by 9:30 p.m. Refreshments are served. Call Ext. 2504.

White water rafting trip: Outdoor recreation offers a trip June 14 to June 16 on the Ocoee River in Tennessee. Cost is \$95 per person and includes transportation, river trip, two nights lodging and two meals. A \$50 deposit is required when registering. Call Ext. 7858.

Columbus Club Lunch Buffet

Served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
\$7.95 per person — Club members receive \$2 discount — Cost includes vegetable, tossed salad and beverage — Ala carte menu also available

<u>Today</u> Fried catfish Stuffed crab Cherry cobbler	<u>Monday</u> Fried chicken Pork loin Banana pudding	<u>Tuesday</u> Chicken fried steak Sausage and peppers Peach cobbler
<u>Wednesday</u> Lasagna Baked fish Assorted cakes	<u>Thursday</u> Pork loin Beef tips Banana pudding	

Music and dance: Frontline, the award-winning Columbus High School show choir, will stage its spring shows today through Sunday.

Frontline performs at 7 p.m. today at CHS, cost is \$5. A Frontline dinner show is at 6 p.m. Saturday at the high school with a catered meal for \$15 (students \$10).

The final spring Frontline show is the Mothers’ Day performance at 2 p.m. Sunday at Columbus High featuring desserts and show for \$10.

Frontline has just returned from a Universal Studios competition in Orlando where they placed second.

Call 329-3533 to reserve for the dinner show, but all other tickets are available at the door.

Mothers’ Day Big Band: Just in time for Military Spouses Day today and Mothers’ Day Sunday, the stage band “the Sessions” led by jazz pianist Jimmy Jarrett headlines a Mothers Day brunch at Streetcar Productions in East Columbus’ Gateway Center begins at noon May 11.

Cost for a full meal and show is \$50 per couple and \$15 for those age 15 and under — ask for a military discount. The menu choices are London Broil or Chicken Breast Supreme with accompaniments, followed by big band sounds and dancing all afternoon.

For more information or to make reservations, call 240-1832.

Flea market: The Tupelo Gigantic Flea Market and Craft Show runs from today through Sunday. The hours are from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Parking is free and admission is \$1. For more information, call (662) 842-4442.



Courtesy photo

Starkville air show

The Eagles Over Mississippi Air Show in Starkville May 10 honors the veterans who flew vintage airplanes. Displays include a P-38 Lightning — the only current touring P-38 in the world, F6F Hellcat, F4U Corsair, P-40 Warhawk plus a P-51, B-25J Mitchell, TBM Avenger, T-6s and more. Eagles Over Mississippi runs 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the George M. Bryan Field — it’s located off Highway 12, across from Starkville’s Wal-Mart. General admission is \$5; \$3 with military identification. For more information log on to www.eaglesovermississippi.com



Rachel Kasic

Preparing for opening

Joe Caldiero, outdoor recreation director, power washes the sides of the deep end of Independence Pool in preparation for its opening May 24. Starting Monday, season passes go on sale and pool party reservations can be made. People may also register for swim lessons for youth. Call Ext. 7858.

Operation Mission Fitness begins at Columbus AFB

Airman Alexis Lloyd
Public affairs

Operation Mission Fitness Month began at Columbus AFB May 1.

“Our goal at Columbus AFB is to get people into a routine of working out,” said Rob Wilburn, fitness and sports center director.

The fitness center has many events scheduled to keep people in shape throughout the month. These activities include:

❑ Tutorials every day on a specific piece of equipment in the center

❑ Health booths every Wednesday focused on nutrition, blood pressure and other topics

❑ Cardio 500 - Participants can register at the fitness center front desk, and they have until May 31 to rack up 100 miles on any type of cardio equipment including treadmills, bikes, rowing machines, cross trainers and stair steppers.

❑ A bench press competition is at 9 a.m. May 17 for seven weight categories for men and four for women. All competitors receive a free T-shirt and trophies are awarded to winners in each category.

❑ A children’s co-op is from 9 to 10:30 a.m. May 19 for people to bring their children to the fitness center while another person watches them in the aerobics room.

❑ An aerobathon is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 22. There are several types of aerobic activities for people to sample.

❑ A Memorial Day fun run begins at 8 a.m. May 23.

❑ Lap swimming begins May 26 and is from 6 to 7:30 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 7 p.m. everyday.

Last year’s fitness month was sponsored with about \$5,000 from Air Force headquarters. This year the fitness center is running the programs without any funding.

“Many other bases aren’t having any special activities due to the lack of funding,” Mr. Wilburn said. “We don’t want to suffer because of this.”

For more information on the activities offered this month, call Ext. 2772.



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett

Tara Thibodeaux, 14th Medical Support Squadron, uses a leg press at the fitness and sports center.

SHORTS

Mothers’ Day Special

Moms bowl for \$1 per game and free shoes from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 11. All others pay regular price.

Bowling championships

The Columbus AFB bowling championship is Thursday.

The two divisions are handicap or scratch. Entry is \$10.

For more information, call the bowling center at Ext. 2426.

Charity golf tournament

The Air Force Association POW/MIA charity golf tournament is from May 17

to May 18. The two-man scramble begins at 1 p.m. May 17 at the Elm Lake Golf Club. A barbecue dinner immediately follows this game.

The two-man best all begins at 8 a.m. at the Columbus Country Club.

The entry cost per team is \$150, which includes carts and greens fees.

Ladies team and mixed teams are invited.

Awards are given to the first and second place winners and for holes-in-one. For more information call Ext. 2645.

aren’t sure how to use all the fitness and sports center’s machines can schedule a Fitness 101 class.

The center shows the person how to find his or her target heart rate and to use all of the equipment. Classes are by appointment only. Call Ext. 2772.

Personal trainers

Personal trainers are available at the fitness and sports center to spice up a workout routine or help a person get more out of their workout. Call Ext. 2773.

Aerobics classes

Aerobics classes ranging from begin-

ning step, kickboxing, spinning and yoga are offered every week at the fitness and sports center.

There are 15 different classes every week. For information on class times, call the Ext. 2772 or stop by the center for a schedule

Thursday scrambles

The Thursday afternoon scramble at Whispering Pines Golf Course begin at 4:45 p.m. Sign up by 4 p.m. each Thursday.

Computer selects the teams. Entry is \$5 per person plus green fees for nonmembers.